Appln. No.: 10/567,872

Amendment Dated January 5, 2010

Reply to Office Action of November 23, 2009

Remarks/Arguments:

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 3, 8-10, 17-28, and 35-37 will be pending in the application. Claims 17-28 stand withdrawn. Applicants have canceled claim 34, without prejudice, and have amended claims 1 and 35. The amendments introduce no new matter.

I. The Office Action rejected claims 1, 3, 8-10, and 35-37 as allegedly obvious over U.S. Publ. No. 2003/0044408 (Levy) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,524,572 (Li). The Office Action states that Levy describes a composition with a surface modifier chemically coordinated to a metal support, and agrees that Levy does not describe fusion proteins, CAR proteins, or fragments of CAR proteins. But, the Office Action cites to Li as describing fusion proteins, and concludes it would have been obvious to combine Li's fusion proteins with Levy's compositions in view of Levy's general guidance to include a biologically active molecule with its composition.

Applicants disagree that the claims are *prima facie* obvious over Levy in view of Li, because the proposed combination of Levy and Li does not supply all of the features of the amended claims. The claims recite a composition comprising a CAR protein or a fragment of a CAR protein. Neither Levy nor Li teach or suggest a CAR protein or fragments thereof. Because the cited references, whether considered alone or in the combination proposed by the Office Action, do not provide all of the claimed features the rejection fails to establish *prima facie* obviousness of the claimed invention.

II. The Office Action rejected claim 34 as allegedly obvious over Levy in view of Li and in further view of U.S. Pat. No. 7,001,745 (Xu). Applicants have canceled claim 34, thereby removing the basis for the rejection. Appln. No.: 10/567,872

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Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks submitted herewith. Applicants solicit a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 5, 2010

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 18-0350 for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.